



OUTDOOR LIVING

TOWN TOPICS — SPRING 1973

A Special Supplement Reporting on Princeton's Constantly Expanding Campaign to Protect Its Environment and Improve Its Ecology
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 • Water Conservation • The Brigantine Wilderness • Nations Bent on Self-Destruction • Friends of Daffodils

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The Greeks Had Three Words for It: Ecology, Esthetics and Economy

The first two usually go hand in hand, but rarely does the third accompany them. There is, however, one frequently misunderstood concept that encompasses all three of these desirable and virtually essential factors, i.e., CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT.

Much has been written on the subject, too little, at least in this country, has been done about it. Princeton Township has made a start in zoning for clustering, and planners are involved in further study. For those who are confused about cluster development, perhaps a summary of its meaning, aims and accomplishments would be enlightening.

Basically, cluster development comes under the overall heading of LAND USE, about which the first annual report of the President's Council on Environmental Quality has this to say:

"Misuse of the land is now one of the most serious and difficult challenges to environmental quality, because it is the most out-of-hand, and irreversible . . . Land use is still not guided by any agreed upon standards. It is instead influenced by a welter of sometimes competing, overlapping government institutions and programs, private and public attitudes and biases, and distorted economic incentives . . . Land is not just acreage. Land embraces the complex biological systems of the soil and the plants and animals which are all part of a continuing life cycle.

Man's understanding of these biological processes, particularly of the permanent damage that begins subtly with piecemeal alterations of the land, is still limited. Yet his dependence upon its stability is enormous . . . Many suburban communities seem to assume that house lots are large and apartment houses few, a practice that assumes that land is abundant.

Abuse Is Costly. Building and construction practices, together with the quickened pace of development and complementary zoning, often end in severe abuse of the land and are ultimately costly to the public. The popular practice of stripping subdivisions of all cover before commencing construction destroys tree and plant cover and can trigger heavy soil run-off. Sedimentation from this runoff . . . loads nearby streams and ultimately river channels. This can cause costly downstream dredging, upstream flood control and destruction of the esthetic quality of lakes and rivers . . . Suburban development often spreads across ridges and slopes which should be left alone because of their beauty and because their trees and plant cover absorb rain and inhibit flooding . . . Trees affect temperature and air pollution as well.

"Building on steep slopes can affect soil stability . . . Many residential subdivisions are usually boring — block after block of treeless lawns, uniform setbacks, and repetitious housing designs and street layouts. Finally, wooded streambeds, slopes and ridges, which could help break the monotony of uniform housing developments are often destroyed . . . The combination of open space with cluster zoning . . . lowers the initial community service costs . . . and it makes a more livable environment for the long term."

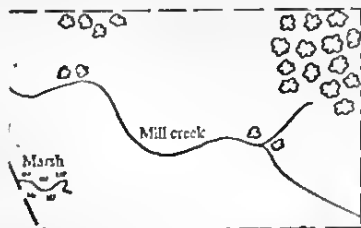
A Delightful Oasis. So how, exactly, does clustering work? There are many variations on the theme ranging from the development of small land parcels to the creation of whole communities like Radburn, New Jersey, which was begun in 1929 and is still a delightful oasis in the middle of an upland megalopolis.

There are also many variations in construction and design, depending on the type of land, the imagination, taste and courage of builders, architects and "town fathers." In essence, however, clustering means the conservation of land by placing dwellings close together on a tract — each with its own private gardens, lawns, or what-have-you and preserving the remaining acreage for communal use and natural open space.

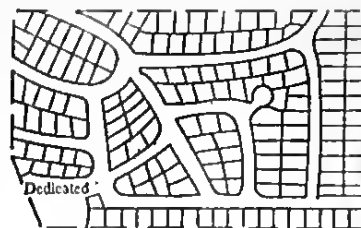
In his fascinating book, "The First Landscape," published in 1968 by Doubleday, William H. Whyte, a prime mover in the fight against the despoliation of our land, describes a typical case.

"A medium-size builder has purchased a 112 acre farm in a well-to-do township on the outer edge of suburbia. The tract is pleasant, gently rolling land with a stream running through the middle and a stand of woods at one end. The site has some defects — a small marsh for one — but it should make a fine subdivision. Mill Creek Woods, the developer will call it . . . When a developer puts a woods

into the name, or a value, height, forest, creek, or stream, he is not conserving; he is normalizing. Subdivisions are named for that which they are about to destroy . . .

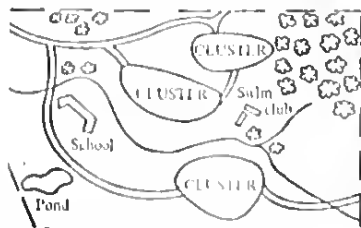


"The township has zoned this area for 1/2 acre lots . . . To squeeze in as many houses as regulations will allow, about 168, he figures to put the creek in a concrete culvert, level the wooded hill and cut down most of the trees. Here is the tentative plan to submit:



"The county planner is very unhappy. He thinks it is a shame to ruin such a fine piece of land with a lock layout and he does not think it is necessary . . . He suggests the developer start fresh . . . with a cluster approach . . . This way . . . the developer will be able to get up as many houses as before . . . and his costs will be considerably less . . . He will have to lay down only about half as much roadway, his utility runs will be shorter, and he will not have to cover the stream and chop down the wooded hill.

"The overall plan is a good one. Of the 112 acres, the house lots take up 42, the streets 18, leaving some 52 acres open space to work with. There will be a common green and playground . . . swimming pool, tennis courts, and a clubhouse. The rest of the tract will be treated as country side with a minimum of landscaping . . . As for the troublesome marsh . . . for the cost of an inexpensive dam it can be turned into a pond. The developer is delighted. He thinks it will be a great merchandising play and will supply it with a covey of ducks."



With such a plan, it is virtually possible to please all of the people all of the time. Local governments can save money in maintenance and service. Developers can build for less outlay. Homeowners can have built-in privacy without upkeep of expensive lots (and can save the cost of country club dues!). Children can congregate in the recreation areas, reaching them far more safely due to a minimum of roads and a separation of vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Conservationists can save most of what they hold dear.

Would that space permitted lengthy quotes from Mr. Whyte's book, which is now available in paperback and at the Princeton Public Library. It is clear, informative and entertaining (nowhere commercial!) highly recommended it for anyone interested in housing and land.

To my mind those who are neighbors of undeveloped land tracts should be delighted if any future development were to be done in cluster form. We are, and we would be! Since the building moratorium has forced Princetonians to stop construction, now seems a very good time to look around and listen to the alternatives to wasting our good land. The cost for clustering, an attractive alternative, is summed up by those words of William James: "Tight fit is what shapes things definitely; with a loose fit you get no results, and America is resolute of loose fits everywhere."

— Pat Light

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Bike! By riding a bicycle, you take a dramatic individual stand against damaging the environment, and besides. . . Henry Arnold, the dynamic young landscape architect who has become Mr. Bike in Princeton, doesn't even own a car. (But he admits he cheats a little: his wife owns one.) When you cycle, he points out, you release your own frustrations, reap the benefits of physical exercise and enjoy the pleasant feeling of doing something healthy and healthful to help the environment.

"The most fun is riding in the rain," smiles Mr. Arnold, "and in hot weather, dressed lightly, you air-condition your self as you ride. Also, it's so much quicker for short distances than a car, especially in Princeton, and you are closer to nature."

"In fact," he continues with a sly smile in his eye, "I have listed 16 ways in which automobiles can damage the environment, although I'm not against cars; only against their USE. The 16?"

— Cars reduce the land to islands, cutting them off with roads. This means fewer plants and animals.

— Cars bring about changes in the ground water because there is erosion during the construction of highways.

On the Cover

Spring and the open road are beckoning to Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Sturges, whose home is on Herrontown Extension. On this occasion, they were pausing for a moment on Mountain View Road in a picturesque spot in Montgomery Township. The photographer was Norbert N. Nelson.

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MR. BIKE: Henry Arnold poses symbolically before a map of Princeton's proposed bike-paths. Mr. Arnold, a landscape architect, has become the town's foremost proponent of the two-wheeler.

— Cars mean highways, and highways generate the need for more highways.

— Cars mean noise pollution. And so on.

Simultaneous Solution.

"Cars and the development patterns are linked," he says seriously, "and this is the frustration because all problems must really be solved together."

Basically, he thinks, we are faced with a moral problem requiring us to change the ways we live (bikes, not cars). This, means, of course, that change won't come quickly.

Mr. Arnold is best known, aside from his advocacy of the bicycle, for saying that all cars should be removed from "Main Street." He also has said, loudly and in public, that the temporary closure of Palmer Square simply isn't radical enough if you're going to do it. DOTT, with a grand and imaginative plan. Spend a million, he said once, and the benefit would be reaped ten times over.

Abandoning the city and "escaping" into suburban life were negative, Mr. Arnold believes, by destroying the quality of the land scape, reducing the number of people of plant and animal life, and, in his words, "leading from the future" and causing effects that may not truly be felt until the next generation.

Nine Years in Vermont. An experienced commuter, Mr. Arnold holds his degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He has studied under Lin McHarg, well known in Princeton for his thoughtful environmental pronouncements, and spent nine years working in Vermont with landscape architect Dan Kiley.

Work on city parks, at St. Paul, New York and Chicago, on a master plan for the campus of the University of Vermont and on proposals for permanent housing in the ski area.

SAVE EASTER LILIES

They Can Bloom Again. Save your potted Easter lily for bloom again in late summer. After the flowers have faded, keep the plant indoors and in a bright location to allow the foliage to mature gradually. Gradually withhold water and after a few weeks the foliage will turn brown. By mid May you can plant the bulbs outdoors.

Remove them from the pot and separate them from the old soil. Pull the stem carefully from the bulb. Plant the bulbs in a sunny location where the soil is well drained.

The Easter lily forms stem roots so the bulbs should be planted at least 6 inches deep. A new green shoot usually breaks through the soil in July and flowers appear in August. Lilies that are forced for Easter are not ideal garden plants, but if you are an enthusiastic gardener they are well worth saving.

ECOLOGY TOURS SET

At Lakes in County Park. If the Mercer County Park Commission has its way, county youngsters will soon easily be able to tell the difference between a piece of algae and a pond weed.

The Park Commission's spring series of nature tours will move from Herrontown Woods in Princeton to Rosedale Park. This recently-acquired Hopewell Township facility offers two large lakes, so the tour emphasis will shift from the foliage and woods environment so abundant in Herrontown to education in aquatic life.

Park Commission naturalist Joseph Schmeltz, who directs the program and acts as a tour guide to the 300 students and others who take the tour every week, said that youngsters will now be able to take a more active participation in their learning. "We'll have pans and strainers for them and the kids can collect the aquatic plants and then discuss ecology," he said.

Richard J. Coffey, president of the Mercer County Park Commission, noted that Rosedale Park, with its two excellent lakes, provides a setting in which young people can learn aquatic biology. "All life is based around water," said Mr. Coffey.

Notification of the tours has gone out to school districts and other interested agencies throughout the county, such as Special Education, Senior Citizens, Boy and Girl Scouts and Campfire Girls. The tours will run until mid-June and, after a summer break, will resume in September.



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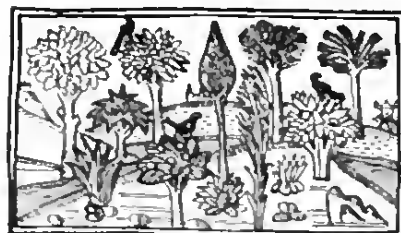
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Highly-Industrialized Societies May Be Self-Extinguishing

(When Norman Cousins, Editor of WORLD magazine, was awarded the 1972 Literary Award, Princeton environmentalist Hazel Henderson, writer, member of the Board of Directors of the Council on Economic Priorities and past President of New York's Citizens for Clean Air, was there to comment on Cousins' lifelong concern with our planetary ecosystem. Following is a condensation of her remarks at the Annual Presentation at the National Arts Club in New York City.)

The First United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, this first step toward ecological management of our planet, would have been beyond human conception without the creative imagination combined with a drive to communicate their vision of a mere handful of human beings. Prominent among this rare handful is Norman Cousins.

What is it about such evolutionary human beings that makes them pathfinders for the rest of us? I think that one of their secrets is that they have "gotten it all together." They appropriate and employ equally the powers of intellect and intuition, reason and emotion. They can embrace their consciousness to address reality, whether manifested in the humblest piece of tree bark hidden in a forest, or in the global conflicts of humans. This rare ability to focus one's whole being on understanding a specific problem or contemplating the big picture seems to release personal powers which in most of us, remain forever untapped.

In the mid 60s, many environmentalists still maintained fragmented and parochial views. Some were concerned only with saving the redwoods or the bald eagle, others exclusively preoccupied with pollution, soil conservation or population control.

Norman Cousins, in imaginative leap, related environmental reform to the need for transcending the nation state system by developing new models of interdependent world ecological order. He dramatized the ecological chaos which could result from untrammeled national decisions by citing the proposed Soviet plan to divert the north-

ward flow of two Siberian rivers to irrigate farmlands. Questions raised by U.S. scientists concerned the effects of such a diversion, which might well have raised the temperature in the American Midwest by an average of 6 to 8 degrees, which might have scorched millions of acres of crops.

Interactions the Key. New confirmation of the validity of Norman Cousins' concern has now been presented in two studies sponsored by the Club of Rome and titled respectively, "World Dynamics" and "Limits to Growth." They describe what I believe are heroic attempts to design dynamic computer models of world scope, which interrelate population, capital investment, geographical space, natural resources, pollution and food production, so as to study their interactions over time.

The models portray scenes of ominous alternative futures for the world, depending on whether population growth is eventually suppressed by a shortage of natural resources, by pollution, crowding and consequent social strife, or by insufficient food. The models indicate that industrialization may be a more fundamentally disturbing force in world ecology than population; that with all its discontents, we may now be living in the "Planet Earth's Golden Age", in which the quality of life is higher than the future offers; and that societies with high levels of industrialization may be non-sustainable and even self-extinguishing.

The intuitions of environmentalists and many scientists all over the world are that the models are essentially correct. However, they have created a furor. Most criticism has centered on the fact that the models do not account for changes in human values which might lead to new policies, which might, in turn, avert the disasters the models predict.

Such critics miss the point completely, since the authors themselves state that their models do not incorporate the possible changes in human value and policy that might come from widespread recognition of humanity's current disastrous course into the future in order to produce

the very changes needed to avert such a world crisis.

Economic Myths Questioned. I believe that the current criticism of these computer models by businessmen and economists with heavy financial or intellectual investments in the panacea of continued economic growth at whatever social or environmental costs, are diverting our attention from the moral implications of these studies so grave that they question many of the comfortable myths concerning equality of opportunity and distribution of income that we have come to believe. We in the U.S. have convinced ourselves, with the help of Keynesian economists, that the best way to improve the lot of the poor is to keep the economy growing, so that the ever-increasing size of the pie would provide bigger slices to the less fortunate. This enables our affluent citizens to continue consuming as usual, relieved of all guilt and responsibility for their less privileged brethren.

Now we are forced to confront the possibility that the kind of economic growth we have had in the past cannot continue for much longer, because the planet's resources are dwindling and current pollution levels are now threatening human health. Therefore we must face the question of redistribution of wealth because it is this very maldistribution of income and capital investment which is at the heart of the ecological crisis. Maurice Strong, Secretary General of the U.N. Conference has said, "Those who command the largest share of the world's material wealth and power must assume the major responsibility for action. We are the greatest polluters. The environmental crisis is largely of our making."

The poorer nations of the world already see that the U.S. alone, with only 6 percent of the world's population, is consuming some 48 percent of the world's resources and discharging some 50 percent of the pollution. Many leaders are calling for remedying this situation by a planned geographical redistribution of industrial production, not only to alleviate the pollution caused by excessive, impacted industrial in the over-

developed countries—but to remedy the festering social injustice of the widening gap between the rich and poor nations. Some leaders of poorer countries see the environmental crisis as their great chance to equalize their material position by accepting polluting industries.

But are we willing to limit the over-consumption of our affluent citizens? Are we willing to let some of our industries relocate in less developed countries? Are we willing to work for minimal environmental standards to prevent the unnecessary pollution such a shift might bring to less-developed regions? Are we willing to limit our own wasteful use of power and automobiles, so that all of the human family may aspire to own a bicycle? Are we willing to re-examine our economic and cultural myths and devise a more survival-oriented value system?

The Force of Necessity. Today we face the astounding fact that world ecological order can only be achieved through social justice and the redistribution of wealth and resources. It is ironic to consider that humankind may be forced by environmental necessity into behaving morally. Could it be that there is inherent in the physical limitations of our planet an equation representing morality for Earthians? Morality—Earth's physical mass of resources divided by the quantity of organic life, including man, to be sustained thereby.

Could it be that the planet has provided us with a vast programmed learning environment of positive and negative reinforcers? If we behave peacefully and humbly cooperate with each other to be rewarded with survival. If we do not, the planet will restore itself to equilibrium by eliminating us. From this programmed environment, designed with infinitely more wisdom than human brains can summon, we may yet learn and even evolve into a species worthy of survival and further propagation in the universe.

Maybe these are just the musings of a fevered imagination or an incurable optimist. Well, blame it on Norman Cousins. As he puts it, "Pessimism is a waste of time."

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UP A LAZY RIVER, IN THE NOONDAY SUN: The meandering Millstone provides a setting for connoisseurs, who

follow a pastime that has been popular in Princeton since the latter part of the last century

A House Is Not a Home Without Plant Life

"Gardening is more than just dandelions and crab-grass—we must immerse ourselves in the land, working with our hands in the earth, experiencing the joy of seeing things grow!"

Till Miller, "the plant lady," is chiefly known paradoxically enough, for her work indoors. She can bring an unhappy house plant back into the joy of living, prescribe a house plant that will grow, for insecure people who think they have no color in the thumb, shrewdly calculate the amount of time and effort you're willing to spend on house plants and advise accordingly.

Wide Choice. She is beginning, now that her indoor "plant lady" business—a scant year old—is growing like a weed, to move outdoors. She will help you plan a patio, a wild garden, or a formal French courtyard with topiary trees, depending on your preference and life style.

Half outdoors, half in—that's Till—with a passionate desire to bring the outdoors in. Garden rooms, in fact, are the biggest thing in her portfolio right now.

"I'm not talking about greenhouses," she emphasizes, "a lot of seeds in little pots, like a potting shed, I'm talking about the sort of room once called a 'conservatory'—a nature room or an environment, where plants and growing things are part of your living."

Old homes, she points out, often have a sunporch which can be transformed into a garden room. She likes to work with architects and builders so that garden rooms can be incorporated into the design of a house, with perhaps a nice square of earth left for the planting of trees "indoors," or sufficient room for a ten-foot plant and for hanging baskets. "When I go to a house," she explains, "I judge its style. Then I talk to the owners and find out their tastes, and the way they live. Are they willing to spend lots of time on many, many plants? Do they and this is what I love!—do they have sculpture I can work



ENVIRONMENT: Till Miller, the plant lady, has a 15-foot-square plant room off the living-room of her Cherry Valley Road home. Its gravel "floor" regularly hosed down, its plastic sides removable when warm weather comes, it's a perfect environment for both plants and people. (Speaking of "environment," have you seen Till's hot-green station-wagon? It makes the new leaf pale!)

with, or perhaps an old piece of lovely wrought-iron, or weathered wood ...

"Something Nourishing." Till likes to plan so that a garden room, or terrace, reflects what she calls "something nourishing in every season," scents, colors, shapes, changing as the months move.

As an environmentalist, Till notes the positive effect of plants in a home, "the beneficial cleansing that comes as plants give off their oxygen."

She also observes that the

cool, moist atmosphere healthiest for plants is healthiest for humans, too. Apartments are most discouraging," she laments, "so hot and dry, and you can't control the heat. I keep my own house under 70 degrees except on the coldest days."

When Till plans a garden room, or a garden corner, or a windowsill of plants—she likes to work with both husband and wife. In big projects, where outside patio planters are involved, "I work together with the people in the family. This involves them totally, and is exciting for them. Besides, they know how to proceed in the future. I find that men are quite as excited as women about gardens. It's just that they don't have garden 'clubs'."

With herbs in vogue, Till is busy helping people plan herb gardens. She herself grows oregano, thyme, sage, rosemary, chives, tarragon, parsley, several mints—and a camphor plant.

If she had her way, in fact, everyone's property would be all garden, but she says with a laugh, "I'd do away with lawns altogether!"

HOW'S YOUR LAWN?

Grub - Proof? Insect pests can damage your lawn by feeding on grass blades or roots. Beetle grubs are one group of insects that feed on roots, and if they are not controlled, they will cause extensive damage.

Last year there was a substantial increase of grub problems in home lawns.

Now is a good time to apply grub - proofing treatment with an insecticide named chlordane. Chlordane is available in granular formulations and can be applied by using a fertilizer spreader.

Liquid formulations can be applied with a watering can for small areas or a quart jar attachment to a garden hose or a conventional spray or for larger areas.

One application of chlordane will grub proof your lawn for three to five years; therefore, yearly applications are not necessary.

Green Thumb Tip

If there's too much over-shading of seedlings in flats they become pale, drawn and soft. This makes them an easy target for "damping off" disease. Allow full sun to 11 a.m., then shade to 2 or 3 o'clock, and back to full sun again to encourage hardening.

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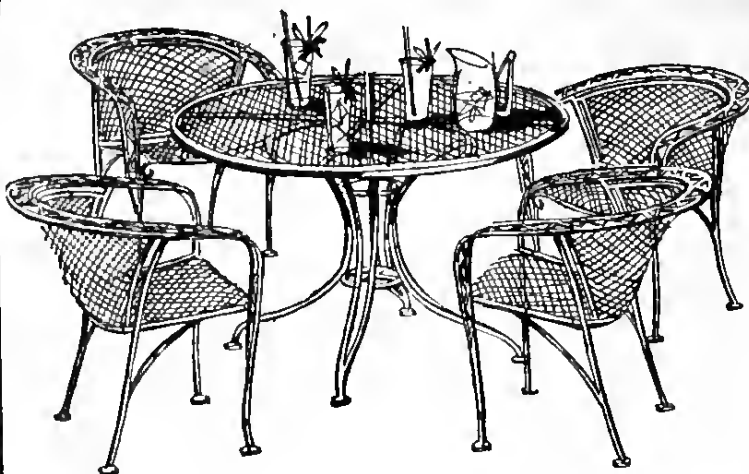
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Brigantine Wilderness—An Unfinished Story

By Hope Cobb
Secretary, N. J. Chapter
Brigantine Wilderness Task Force

Wilderness in New Jersey? The idea may seem strange to those of us who are accustomed to think of our state only in terms of the most densely populated and urbanized region in the country. Yet not only do we already have one full-fledged wilderness area, the Great Swamp which was created by the Wilderness Act of 1964, but we have a second and last opportunity in the Brigantine Wildlife Refuge, which is within an hour and a half drive from Princeton, ten miles north of Atlantic City.

The 19,388-acre Refuge, consisting of unspoiled salt marsh and tidal bays, has become a mecca for bird lovers not only throughout the state but also from Pennsylvania, New York and beyond, who arrive in droves to hunt the two fresh-water impoundments, armed with cameras, bird books and binoculars.

The Refuge was originally established in 1939 by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission to provide a migratory and wintering area for the black duck and the Atlantic brant. It supports up to 80 percent of the brant population and this alone makes it of vital importance, since the brant has dwindled alarmingly during the last two years because of unfavorable conditions in the Arctic regions where it nests.

The Refuge contains numerous other waterfowl and shore birds, including a few osprey which are rapidly vanishing in New Jersey. This winter, visitors have been delightedly viewing the dramatic spectacle of soaring flocks of snow

geese which have increased from 8,000 to 20,000 during the past year.

Protection Needed. Most people think that National Wildlife Refuges are automatically protected under the law from commercial development, but this is not the case. A good example of their vulnerability is the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge in New York. Governor Rockefeller has recently announced his firm intention of building a bridge across Long Island Sound that would go over or through the Refuge, despite vociferous opposition not only from local citizens and officials, but also from the Department of the Interior.

Conservationists can, of course, invoke the National Environmental Policy Act, but this provides no guarantee that the bridge will be prohibited. Only the protection provided by the Wilderness Act can save a wildlife refuge from this type of vandalism.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife which manages the Refuge, has proposed a 1,250-acre wilderness area for Brigantine. This would include only Little Beach Island, undeniably the finest part of the Refuge, a complex of 17 islands and one of the last undeveloped barrier beaches along the New Jersey coast.

It is the most isolated part of the Refuge area and being accessible only by boat, gets the least amount of public use. Conservationists, scientists and citizen groups throughout New Jersey, dissatisfied with the small amount of land proposed for wilderness by the BSE & W, have formed a Brigantine Wilderness Task Force which is working for a larger wilderness

proposal of approximately 16,89 acres.

Sierra Club Active. The Task Force is composed of 15 statewide organizations, its director, Dr. Kenneth Tompkins, Dean of Experimental Studies at Stockton State College, has been mobilizing the local scientific community to help with field studies on the Refuge. The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club, which has contributed actively to the work of the Task Force, is represented by John Greene, Chairman of the South New Jersey Group, and Hope Cobb, the Task Force secretary.

The process of a wilderness proposal is arduous and agonizingly slow. Once a bill has been introduced by a Congressman, it is referred to a subcommittee of the House Interior Committee, which holds hearings on the bill. Based on testimony given at the hearings, the subcommittee will report out its own bill to the full Interior Committee, which may make further changes in it. The bill then goes onto the floor of Congress, usually only after much prodding by its original sponsor.

The same process must be repeated in the Senate. If there is any discrepancy between the bills which emerge from each House, they must go to a joint House-Senate conference and the compromise measure approved by the House and Senate as a whole.

All those with a keen interest in wilderness and wildlife preservation are urged to support the Task Force in its efforts. For further information, contact Dr. Kenneth Tompkins, 121 Pitman Road, Absecon, or Hope Cobb, 45 Caron Road, Princeton.

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PROGRESS REPORT

From Conservation Coalition. Since its rather informal organization after Earth Day, 1970, the Conservation Coalition has involved itself in a variety of activities.

Some of these projects, such as the establishment of nonofficially sponsored recycling, have been successful. Some, such as the proposed ban on returnable beverage containers, have not been successful, but we keep trying.

An unexpected side effect of the activities of the Coalition has been the acquisition of a large amount of information on an equally large number of environmental problems, ranging from air pollution to zinc poisoning. This material is being filed, catalogued, cross referenced, and what have you in the point where a really useful research library is being built up. The Coalition is happy to share this library with the public.

The telephone number of the Coalition office, 923-3111, is constantly being used by people seeking information on all sorts of environmental questions. We don't always have the answers, but we are almost always able to direct the caller to someone who does.

The slightly antique typewriter is leading a hard life, age tapping out letters to federal, state and local government officials urging pro-

tection of environmentally sound legislation and the defeat of proposals which would bring about environmental deterioration. A sharp eye is kept on the voting records of our elected representatives.

Because the Conservation Coalition is a purely volunteer group, we find it difficult to keep the office adequately staffed, the catalogue up to date, the questions answered and the stream of letters flowing in the right direction. Newcomers are welcome to bring problems, interest and especially the donation of a few hours of their time to become involved in today's activities, which will bring about a better quality of life tomorrow.

— Helen Seckel

LEAF MOLD CAN HELP

Dig it up, Free! If you're a beginner gardener, you may not know what black gold that free Township leaf mold is. (Piles and tons of it are ready for you to shovel up, no charge, in the dump across State Road from the paddle tennis courts.)

John Kuser, chairman of the Township Shade Tree Commission and chairman of the board of trustees of the Shom Rock Wildlife Watershed Association, is a knowledgeable man about soils.

He explains that the leaf mold is slightly acid, partly because all decaying leaves are, but also because the mold contains oak leaves and pine

needles which are strongly acid.

The mold is chiefly valuable because it increases the ability of the soil to hold water, improves soil structure, in other words, it makes either clay or sandy soil nice and loamy, loosens the clay so prevalent in Princeton and keeps sandy soil from draining water all at once. It also promotes beneficial bacterial activity in plants.

The leaf mold is not, however, rich in nutrients, and may even rob the soil of nitrogen. Mr. Kuser recommends that if you use it with trees and shrubs, you might add a 10-6-4 fertilizer and in a vegetable patch, a 5-10-5 combination.

For a soil mix, Mr. Kuser suggests that you dig a hole for your tomato plant, or whatever, and toss out 20 percent of the soil you dig. Make a mixture of 60 percent standard soil, 20 percent sand and 20 percent leaf mold and put it in your hole. If you think this comes out to 120 percent, you're right, and you'll have a slightly mounded up "hill." But leaf mold decays, and if you don't allow for that decay, you'll end up with a slight depression in the ground.

CLASSES GROW, TOO

In PBS Horticulture Program. High school kids who might want to go into horticulture as a career, high school kids who just happen to like plants and enjoy putting around in leisure time, both kinds are enrolled in Princeton High School's Horticulture Program under John Toscano. "Horticulture," first offered to juniors and seniors in 1970, has increased from one class of 12 students to four classes totaling 92. Classes are held in a large open space, designed with two table areas for work and discussion, and eight study centers equipped with light and microscopes.

Experiments are conducted in four plant centers, which have hanging baskets of plants, giving students a feeling of closeness to the plant environment.

In lab sessions, students learn how to prepare soil mixes, how to get plant materials ready for plant propagation, and how to master the



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Want to Work for Environmental Issues? Sierra Club Tells How

By Diane Graves

Conservation Chairman
N. J. Chapter, Sierra Club

Last June the Northern and Southern Jersey Groups came together officially as the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club. The year has been a busy one, as exemplified by its 1973 newsletters testily while giving an indication of the variety of the Chapter's interests and efforts:

Where The Action Is. Club leadership has recently testified at various public hearings on energy, wetlands, amendments to the Delaware River Basin Commission's Comprehensive Plan, and Trails. It has presented a statement questioning the need of the Turnpike Extension; gone on record in support of Mercer County's sanitary landfill operation; joined with N.J. Public Interest Group on behalf of Burnt Fly Bog; (more on that below); attended various conferences; and lobbied."

Right To Sue Polluters. On February 5, the Assembly passed A 569 without weakening amendments. This bill is now in the Senate Judiciary Committee. This is public interest legislation. It gives citizens aggrieved by an action or inaction standing in courts to present a complaint, but it does not guarantee a favorable judgment. A key provision is that legal action for prevention of environmental damage is made possible. No longer must the damage be well under way, or irreparable, before action can be taken. Adequate protection is provided in the bill to protect the defendant from misuse of preventative suits. Citizens and groups have sought and doubtless will continue to

seek corrective actions to environmental wrongs. Suing is a last resort, but it should be a possibility."

"Musto Report Released. A Good Report On Bad Water. (To state that New Jersey has a serious water pollution problem is to state the obvious. Throughout the state, pollution abounds from public and private sewage treatment plants, industrial uncontrolled septic tanks, and background sources such as agricultural runoff. Government responses to pollution problems have been severely hampered due to an inadequate statutory base, an antiquated administrative structure, and the absence of a comprehensive planning process. This in turn resulted in an institutional framework characterized by fragmentation, jurisdictional conflicts, and an inability to consolidate environmental policies among various levels of government. From the Report's Summary Statement.

"The report is the result of about two and a half years of careful investigation. The report concluded that taxpayers have spent more than \$1 billion over the past decade to clean up New Jersey's water, but because of gross inefficiencies in all functional and institutional aspects — from the Federal to the municipal level, our waterways are more polluted than ever.

The problem now is to assure that the at least \$3 billion to be spent over the next 10 to 15 years will actually improve water quality. The report makes about 60 recommendations which should be given thoughtful attention and should be supported. The re-

port is available to you from: County and Municipal Government Study Commission, 115 W. State St., Trenton (609) 222-6299."

Two members of the Musto Commission will be at Peyton Hall, Princeton University, on May 15 at 8:15 p.m., to discuss "The Water Quality Crisis in New Jersey." We suggest you come, hear the worst, and find out what can be done about it.

"Oh That This Too Too Solid Waste Would Melt..." But, like Hamlet's solid flesh, it won't. Facing up to this fact, our Chapter is offering some help to community leaders who fear they are about to be buried under tons of garbage. An 11-page report on solid waste management analyzes how citizens, groups, and municipalities can cope with this increasing problem in ways other than the present inefficient, inadequate, poorly organized and poorly regulated local efforts. It also lists actions possible for citizens groups and gives a brief bibliography of existing studies. For a copy of the report send \$1 to the Chapter office, 360 Nassau Street, or call 924-3141.

Energy and the Environment. The New Jersey Senate appointed an ad hoc committee to investigate the energy crisis in January. Stockton Gaines, Vik Dalal and John Greene gave testimony at these hearings. Mr. Dalal was representing the Federation of American Scientists but is a member of the Chapter's Energy Committee. This testimony received considerable publicity, especially his observation that blaming environ-

mentalists for environmental problems is akin to the practice in the Middle Ages of beheading bearers of bad news. We feel that we will have had a major influence in shaping the report which the committee will prepare."

"We won a major conservation victory in the fall when the Flood Plains legislation, one of our top priority items for years, was passed and signed into law by Governor Cahill."

"Sierra Club Lawsuit for the protection of Burnt Fly Bog. A developer sued Madison Township to have its exclusionary zoning ordinance (all residential land zoned for one or two acre lots) overturned, and he won. The overturning left unprotected the area known as Burnt Fly Bog, a genuine, bona fide bog, covered by residential zoning, but on which there had been no construction.

The developer wants it for high density housing, and Middlesex and Monmouth counties want it as undeveloped space. Environmental considerations were swept aside by the court. The Club is intervening as a friend of the court to ask that environmental factors be considered so that no matter what happens, the bog will be protected. This case may well set major precedents regarding land use and zoning."

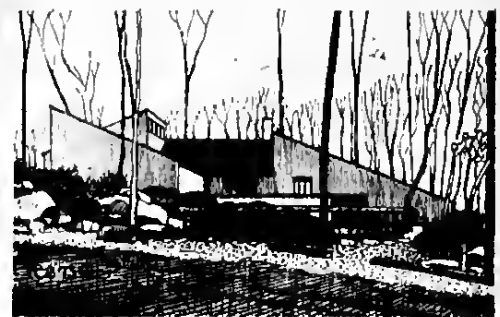
Write Letters. Whether or not you are otherwise involved, you can do important work by writing letters to public officials. To many members of the N.J. Legislature, two letters from constituents on an environmental issue constitute a landslide. Most of them never hear from anyone on most environmental legislation. The situation is not as bad for U.S. Representatives and Senators. Still, if 40 percent of our membership responded to our recent plea to write about opening up the Highway Trust Fund to support mass transportation, they would consider those 1000 letters a major outburst of public opinion. A letter can be as brief as two or three sentences.

Chapter meetings are held the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Princeton University Engineering Quadrangle Building, and are open to all members and friends, as are Sierra Club Outings. Callers are happily welcomed, in person or by phone, at the Sierra Club Office, 360 Nassau St. 609-24-3141

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Patio-Minded? Here Are Some Valuable Tips

By Townsend Scudler
Architect/Designer

With summer closer than you think, now is the time for serious thought about that patio you planned to put in last year which lost out by a hair in either a bid, an extended vacation or some household improvement. Even if it is not at the top of your priority list, maybe you should re-buff the list.

A patio, and I prefer to call it an outdoor living room, has lots in offer but not every home necessarily needs one. For those who live in older homes with mature landscaping, screening for privacy and big trees to provide a pleasant canopy of summer shade, the need may not be there. It is to the owners of relatively new homes that this article is primarily addressed.

Many will say we must find the front before we start on the back. I ask "How many people sit on the front yard to enjoy an afternoon drink?" It is in the backyard where you will be doing the majority of your outdoor living and maybe having a pleasant area to relax and entertain is really important. Chances are there is nothing in the back anyhow, and that is the place to get started.

At Least 300 Square Feet. Whether you plan to do the work yourself and more people are doing just that, or hire someone, here are some pointers to consider. A key one is size. You will be cramped with no room to stretch out in if you make it too small.

If it has to be small because of budget limitations, figure out before you start how you might make it larger at a later date. A good figure to start out with is about 300 square feet. Remember, tables, chairs, benches and patio furniture which is not compact in style take up lots of room.

Next, consider design. Make it interesting but not too complicated. Good design can make the difference between a patio that earns you compliments and one that looks like an afterthought, a large pad or just an appendage that doesn't belong.

Try to stay away from pure rectangular or black shapes, add some angles or curves and don't put it right up against the side of your house. Move it away enough so you can have some plantings between the house and patio, otherwise you will be sitting with your back against a blank wall.

Plan Ahead To help work out a planning design, take some short staks, and run a string around them so you can see the final shape. Look at it from several angles including the outdoors, the kitchen and the room that will be facing it.

When determining location, drainage is a very important factor to consider. There should be enough grade to allow water to run off. Rather than center it off the back door, angle it out to one side or the other, choosing the direction that will offer the most pleasing view.

At the time you are working out your design, consider also the various plantings you will need. Privacy screening on one or more sides may be necessary. If you have a western exposure, you should consider a good size shade tree. With an eastern exposure, a smaller growing ornamental is often appropriate.

The important point to remember is that a patio with out plantings is incomplete, the same as a bare room with only a carpet. Plantings provide the setting and an invitation that says come outside and enjoy yourself. Plants should be selected on the basis of providing interest all seasons of the year.

Flat or Sloped? Should you have a flat site, or way to create a change in elevation is through the use of raised planters large enough to use one side to sit on with sufficient space to hold a small tree. Should you have a slope, perhaps an area can be excavated to create a recessed or sunken effect.

Costwise, the least expensive type of surfacing is gravel. Be wary, however, of white stone where the glare factor can be discomforting. Gravel can be held in place with a brick

edging. If railroad ties are used, they could be placed several inches above the final gravel level and later brick could be placed on top with the addition of a sand base.

Other common materials used are flagstone (can be slippery) brick, patio blocks or wood decking. It is really a matter of personal taste and the budget.

Above all, plan your patio carefully before you start. Like good landscaping when it matures, it represents an investment in your home that can grow in value with each succeeding year.

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'Many Have Lived without Love, But None without Water'

By Elizabeth Kassler
Friends of
The Princeton Environment

The trouble with the present is that the future isn't what it used to be.

—Paul Claudel,
via Robert L. Geddes

Who would have guessed on that first Earth Day, just three years ago, that we would so very quickly be confronted by formidable natural constraints upon our comfortable tradition of mindless growth? Water and energy — sleepers suddenly front and center.

Energy? Cheap, boundless energy — "energy to burn" — had been the American assumption, as basic to our dream as to our economy, and dire predictions of critical shortage within 10 or 20 years are so recent that response is still tentative. Reaction ranges from simplistic optimism ("The economy will simply substitute things that are plentiful for things that are scarce. The simple process of economics will keep us going," Henry C. Wallich, Yale economist and columnist), through calls from the power industry for relaxation of environmental safeguards, to occasional welcome ("The need to live more sparsely, more humanly, is an opportunity, not a sacrifice," Margaret Mead).

Yet scientists, responsible government officials, environmentalists, and to some extent even the energy industries begin to agree that Americans must educate and legislate themselves into far thriftier habits of energy consumption. Too much waste.

Conservation measures such as those now recommended for New Jersey by Senator Schluter's ad hoc Committee on Energy and the Environment seem a praiseworthy start. It also becomes apparent that a hugely expanded effort must go into research, directed toward less wasteful patterns of energy consumption as well as toward the development of safe, non-polluting, economically feasible sources of power. Princeton University, presently involved not only through the Plasma Physics Laboratory's work with thermonuclear fusion but through research on transportation and energy use and on energy husbandry in

housing, hopes to expand both types of inquiry.

Water, if water, unlike energy, is a long-acknowledged problem, it has been a problem only superficially perceived. Believing that water was a resource that could and should be tailored to accommodate itself to the whimsical logic of economic growth, population pressures, market demand, tax crunch, and developers' convenience, we blithely applied local surgery when water gave trouble or impeded progress. Mad for waterworks, we built dams for flood control, corseted unruly streams in straight channels, laid down culverts, drained wetlands, and then used landfill to create a bonus of "real estate" as return for our labors.

In addition, working at one remove from visible water and heedless of consequences to the supply, we bulldozed woods, tore out groundcover, built on steep slopes, paved flood plains, disregarded aquifers. And finally, we welcomed new ratepayers even when sewerage systems were already loaded beyond their capacities.

Our tacit assumption that man's demands are of a higher order than nature's has proved mistaken. To the degree that human intervention has caused the earth to lose its natural absorbency, rain runs off more quickly, floods increase in frequency and volume, precious underground reservoirs shrink, and sluggish summer streams are unable to accomplish the final purification of treated sewage effluent.

Hernia Lechner, Chairman of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Task Force II on Regional Water Quality Management, introduced a vivid analogy at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Princeton Environment. The Earth, she said, has established a well-functioning plumbing system which breaks down only when we stupidly interfere. "Through land use, water supply, waste disposal, and storm water management, we are privileged to modify this plumbing system," provided we do not over-stress it. When we over-stress it, water has the last word, not us, and undoing our errors is a costly and sometimes impossible business.

Quite clearly, we are Sunday plumbers who have been meddling with matters we did not fully understand. For documentation of the critical water-supply problem created in New Jersey by explosive, sprawling growth coupled with inadequate water management, see the report issued last month by State Senator William Musto's County and Municipal Government Study Commission and prepared in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Protection. Evidence of the crisis is the present State-imposed moratorium on further development in Princeton, East Windsor, and dozens of other New Jersey communities.

Out of trial and error, and out of a new respect for the expertise of scientists, comes an awareness that water problems are basically land-use problems. Concern for its effect upon the quantity and quality of water, in state and region as well as immediate locale, must underpin every decision as to the location and density of future development, for we now know that we must interfere as little as possible with the natural cycles by which water is purified and renewed. Professional planners may need time to adjust to this criterion. Encouraged in the 'sixties to think socially rather than physically, they tend to be more at ease with laborsheds than watersheds.

Friends to Water. Where do the Friends of the Princeton Environment stand on these emerging issues? On energy, no official policy as yet other than a long-time promotion of buses, bicycles and God-given feet as appropriate local substitutes for private automobiles.

On water, strong positions and vigorous action ever since the organization was founded two years ago. In fact, if there is any one cause to which the Friends are friendliest, it is to the idea that water is the vital natural factor that must be respected by land use decisions at every level. "Many have lived without love," wrote Auden. "But none without water."

As a self-appointed guardian of local streams and watersheds, the Friends have taken a special interest in Harry's Brook, questioning the construction of buildings and paved areas that will speed runoff, opposing channelization other than as a last resort, and calling official attention to encroachment violations such as the banks of fill, six to 12 feet high, built into the floodway at a development currently under construction. The group has supported cluster housing because it should be less disturbing to natural contours and vegetation than conventional full lots, and as part of its public information service has begun to organize for next fall a short but intensive course on brooks and streams.

Expecting a moratorium on construction, the Friends assembled good evidence that local sewage collectors were failing and that the treatment plant was so inadequate even into the present population, let alone the awaited newcomers, that it was aggravating pollution in the Millstone River. Welcoming the proposal of a regional sewerage system, they joined with other groups to insist that it be planned for a minimum of damage and proceeded to focus this spring's annual meeting on environmental and social aspects of "The Regional Sewage Problem." Vice Chairman C. McKim Norton (Counsel, Regional Plan Association) served as moderator of a distinguished panel that included John K. Dunka (Research Associate, Musto Commission), speaking on governmental management; Mrs. Lechner, on suburban growth and water resources; and William Miller (Counsel, Delaware River Basin Commission, Stony Brook Regional Sewerage Authority, Princeton Regional Planning Board) on land use and property taxes. A report on the meeting will soon be made available.

Looking beyond uncertain plumbing to certain pleasure, the Friends will soon be announcing a canal and towpath project that should attract water fanciers of various ages and interests.

BAGWORMS A PROBLEM

For Trees and Shrubs. Bagworms are insects that frequently attack evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs. If you look closely, you'll probably find some now.

The caterpillars spin tough, spindle-shaped bags from 1 to 2 inches long. These bags are covered with bits of foliage from the host plant and to an unknowing gardener the bags appear to be a part of the tree. Trees most commonly attacked by bagworms are arborvitae, juniper, locust,

linden, hemlock, larch and pine.

Many bagworms have overwintered this year as eggs in bags attached to trees. Therefore, you can reduce bagworm damage to your trees this coming summer by hand picking the bags from the trees beginning now.

You can either burn the bags or place them in a deep, open container near infested trees. Some of the bags in the container will include parasites which will emerge and attack bagworm caterpillars next summer.



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Solving Today's Solid Waste Problem Would Have Baffled Machiavelli

By Ian R. Walker
Executive Director
Stony Brook-Millstone
Watersheds Association

The Mercer County Improvement Authority is finding, as did Machiavelli more than 400 years ago, that "...there is nothing more difficult to carry out, no more doubtful of success, nor more dangerous to handle, than to initiate a new order of things." Machiavelli obviously didn't anticipate the politics of today's solid waste problem. He would have been less optimistic.

Ordinarily, something new is opposed only by those who profit from the old and by "the incredulity of mankind, who do not truly believe in anything new until they have had actual experience of it." Solid waste presents a tougher problem.

The Watersheds Association is in sympathy with anyone who, based upon experience, equates sanitary landfills with dumps. Dumps have been against the law in New Jersey since 1858 and we still have about 150 of them around. We changed the law but not the dumps.

Sanitary landfills exist in name and not reality. Most people honestly opposed to a sanitary landfill are not opposed to something new; they are opposed to dumps with their rats, flies, water pollution and blowing paper. The State has done very little to change the image (even things up) because until now not enough of us have cared either about the environment of the nearest dump or about the solid waste problem.

The MCIA has offered Mercer municipalities a solution to the solid waste problem in the form of a plan for a sanitary landfill. The Department of Environmental Protection has given its approval to the first phase of the plan. The Watersheds Association has concluded that the landfill will be sanitary if operated according to the plan.

Listed below are some of the environmental issues which are being raised honestly and sometimes for purely political reasons.

The State should approve the entire plan. The DEP has approved only the first phase of the MCIA plan. Opponents argue that the entire plan should

SELECT RIGHT VARIETY

For Vegetable Garden If you want a productive vegetable garden this year — one that will pay you for your hard work — start out on the right foot now and select the varieties that are disease resistant and best suited for New Jersey's climate.

The 1973 Home Garden Vegetable Variety Recommendations for New Jersey prepared by Bernard L. Pollack, Extension Specialist in Vegetable Crops at Rutgers College of

agriculture, should be approved first. One could speculate that if the entire plan has been approved then opponents would have objected to blanket approval for a six or eight year operation. In fact, the State can certify any landfill for operation for only one year.

Certification could not be given the first year for an area to be filled during the second or subsequent years. Most important, the concept for design and operation is the same for all phases of the MCIA landfill.

Water Pollution. This is generally acknowledged to be the most important environmental issue raised about the MCIA plan. The Authority has proposed to line the bottom of the landfill with a clay membrane (bentonite) which will permit collection and treatment of rainwater (leachate) percolating through the refuse. A chemist living in Lawrence Township has questioned whether the leachate will alter the clay, making it less permeable, and thus threatening local surface and ground water supplies.

The Watersheds Association has recommended to the MCIA that the worst possible conditions be anticipated and that the amount of bentonite in the membrane be increased 20 percent. This will give protection for 80 years, more than twice the time needed to control leachate.

A water quality monitoring and surveillance system is built into the plan.

Flooding. Opponents claim that the major alteration of the site from fields, woodland and swamp will result in more rapid surface water run off and down stream flooding. Run off will be more rapid but plans call for surface water detention facilities to release the water slowly and prevent flooding.

Rats and Gulls. In preliminary wildlife survey of the MCIA site a State Division of Fish and Game Senior Wildlife Biologist speculated that native species of birds and animals would probably be replaced by such species as rats, gulls, crows, starlings, etc.

Because this conclusion was based upon experience with unsanitary landfills rather than a study of MCIA plans and specifications, the Water

Agriculture and Environmental Science, can help you make the right selections.

Each variety has gone thru the rigors of research and testing and is recommended with confidence. Read the planting instructions on the seed packages carefully and follow them to the letter.

If you want a free copy of the 1973 recommendations, you can get one by sending a postcard to the Mercer County

Sheds Association has asked the Division to study the MCIA plans and specifications before making a final report. We have asked the Division Director for his recommendations for improved design if the present plan will, in fact, cause such a problem.

Alternative Sites. Opponents suggest that as an alternative to the MCIA proposal, municipalities continue to use existing landfill sites. The Association reviewed design data and the plans for the Lone Pine (Monmouth County) and L & D (Burlington County) sites. In addition, a visit was made to critical locations at each site.

As a result of a report sent to the Department of Environmental Protection by the Association, remedial measures, including leachate control and treatment, are underway at the Lone Pine site. A testing program is underway at the L & D site to determine the location and extent of possible surface water and ground water pollution.

Neither the Lone Pine nor the L & D site have been certified by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Local opponents to the MCIA plan point to the record of the State and suggest that there is not much to fear in the way of changes in operation and higher disposal costs at the two out-of-county sites. They fail to consider that the State as well as the residents, boards of health, and newspaper editors of these other communities are calling for sanitary landfills.

Recycling. To date, recycling has been a fragmented and frustrating effort of scores of residents in numerous municipalities. The MCIA plan offers an institution (the Authority), a site and a study to get recycling out of the garbage and volunteer stage and into the solid waste volume reduction and resource recovery stage on a long-term regional basis.

Would you be for it if...? Since the Association concluded that the proposed sanitary landfill would be sanitary if operated according to plan, we have been asked if we would be for it if it were in our watershed (the site in Lawrence Township is in the Assumpink Creek Watershed). We would. And we would probably say so.

Extension Service, 930 Spruce Street, Trenton, N.J. 08638.

Green Thumb Tips

"Damping off" disease is often brought on by overhead watering of seedlings in flats. Instead of overhead watering, try placing a two and one-half inch pot in the center of the flat. Add water to the pot, and this will keep the flat moist without overhead watering. Sink the flat well before sowing the seeds.

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


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LET'S PICNIC AT AUTUMN HILL Picnic tables are new this season in Princeton's Autumn Hill open space area (off Herrontown Road, beyond Snowden Lane), and there is water, too, for picnickers who don't drink coffee. Here are two Girl Scout families trying out an Autumn Hill table. The two Scouts, on the far side of the table are Sheryl Trotman and Kendall Guthrie (joined by young Polly Guthrie.) In the foreground are Marvin Trotman, Sheryl's father, and young Marvin, her brother. Mrs. Robert L. Guthrie is at the far right.

Stony Brook Club Creates 18th Century Garden at "Rockingham"

By Angeline F. Austin
President
Stony Brook Garden Club

I was never much of student of history until I discovered that it applied to plants, as well as people and places and events. I was introduced to this rewarding and revealing fact by being a member of the Stony Brook Garden Club.

In 1965, our club undertook the creation of an herb garden at "Rockingham," George Washington's headquarters in Rocky Hill. This wasn't the restoration of a garden that once existed. "Rockingham" has been picked up and moved a total of three times since George Washington composed his "Farewell Address to the Armies" in the blue room in 1783. Our club's assignment was to create an herb garden as it might have existed in the latter half of the 18th century.

We began with an area roughly 30 to 40 feet that lies between the summer kitchen and the main house. There had been a feeble attempt made to create something of a garden, but with very little regard for the house or for history. So we started from scratch.

Mrs. Donald Griffin drew up plans and a garden began to develop. Mrs. Henry Patton worked and talked with the Rockingham Association and the state and we received their help and support.

A Job for Everyone. Every member of the club pitched in; if not in a physical then in a mental way. There was digging to be done; not just in the soil, but also into history.

I never knew there were so many kinds of gate latches, or picket fences, or patterns of brick paths. Members looked them up in books and viewed them in person in such places as Mt. Vernon and Williamsburg, before a decision was made.

The brick paths were laid all of old brick and gravel, not modern concrete. The paths from history were laid

ting heavy plastic down before the gravel was spread to keep weeds from growing up through the stone.

All the time the physical aspects of the garden were being developed we were also doing research into the plant material to be used. We planted only material that was historically correct, and this opened up a whole world of fascinating discoveries. I found that in a modern world that often feels everything old must somehow be improved upon, it was a comfort to see, plant, smell, use and enjoy an herb that had been in existence for hundreds of years.

Each plant had a purpose: culinary, medicinal, aromatic, as well as creating a lovely effect that was pleasing to the eye as well as the nose. The pattern of the beds and the paths along with the contrast in foliage in a herb garden is one of its beauties. The contrasts of scents when one is weeding it is one of its rewards.

Nature Herbs. Herbs are easy to grow and I speak from personal experience. I seem to manage to kill my philodendron each winter, but even I can't discourage mint, or lemon balm, or tansy in a herb garden.

In fact I defy anyone to discourage tansy anywhere! Most herbs like sun, aren't fussy about soil, don't need to be staked or sprayed, enjoy being picked and cut, and keep right on growing just as they did 200 years ago.

Most herbs popular in colonial days are still cultivated today. Some are native herbs, such as Wild Indigo, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Sweet Flag, Wild Ginger, Pokeweed, Blood Root. Some are herbs brought from abroad: Feverfew, Angelica, Borage, Sweet Woodruff, Hyssop, Rue. Some are common and in wide use such as Dill, Caraway, Chives, Parsley, Marjoram, Mint, Tarragon, Rosemary.

Some are more obscure. But all have something to contribute to our lives and to our

Imaginations. Our sense of taste can be gratified, or our sense of smell; even our sense of touch can be rewarded by picking a leaf of Wooley Lamb's Ear and stroking it. Herbs can be pacifiers.

Magic and Mystery. Many herbs are no longer used as they were in colonial days, but some of their magic and mystery lingers on beyond their obvious uses. We no longer need to use the flowers of Rosemary to discourage moths, but a sprig of "Rosemary for remembrance" still can have meaning; or the saying "few fennel - few sorrow." Lady's Bedstraw is no longer used to stuff mattresses, but its name won't let us forget its original use. Some of the benefits our ancestors believed were derived from herbs could be questioned, but then our needs and way of life have changed. A certain fascination with these stories and their background remains.

Most of the above information comes from a recent project of our club. With the encouragement of Mrs. James Q. Griffin, each member was assigned at least two herbs to research history, uses, cultivation.

In the near future, the results of this research will be available to visitors to the gardens at Rockingham. Each year some of the proceeds from our annual May Market (this year May 8 from 9 to 4 at 15 Dodge Road) go toward the maintenance of these gardens.

So, just as each member of our club contributed to the creation, development and maintenance of our 18th century herb garden, they also contributed their "homework" in this article. Please take a trip out to Rockingham to enjoy our herb garden, and our 18th century rose garden as well.

Walk along the paths and enjoy the sights and scents unspoiled in almost two centuries. In a most literal meaning of the word, you too may discover you have a herb for today.

country's large growers which will allow group members to buy at moderate prices; for example, an outlay of \$10 or \$15 for a collection which could include bulbs normally priced at \$35 or \$40 each.

Why Daffodils?

The flower is widespread in the temperate zone and seems to like it here, Mr. McNamara observes. The poisonous calcium oxalate in its bulb keeps mice from eating it up, and although daffodils can be a problem in the northern states, generally the daffodil is nice and tough compared to other hobby plants.

Not every cultivar will grow everywhere, it is true, but by and large, the clumps just keep getting bigger and bigger and as a rule, the daffodil's habitat is—everywhere.

FIGHTING THE BATTLE

Against Lawn Diseases.

Most of the grasses in lawns grow under artificial conditions and are more subject to attack by disease organisms than they would be in a natural environment. Healthy, vigorously growing, adapted lawn grasses that are properly managed can best survive disease attacks.

The homeowner's best defense against lawn diseases is to follow these basic principles of lawn establishment and maintenance:

— Select grasses adapted to the soil, climatic, and light conditions under which they will be grown.

— Spend the necessary time, effort and money on caring for the lawn. In addition to disease control, lawn care includes proper fertilizing, watering, mowing and insect and acid control.

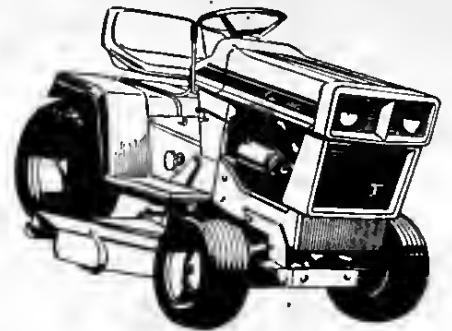
For more information on establishment and maintenance of lawns see your county agricultural agent or State extension service specialist, or write to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Proper care does not completely prevent or cure diseases but it helps to curb them so that chemical controls can be more effective if they become necessary.

— Continued on Page 12

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DAFFODILS REUNITED

New Organization Formed King Alfred isn't the only one in the backyard. In fact, if you think King A. is the only daffodil there is, you may not even believe members of the newly formed New Jersey Friends of Daffodils when they tell you there are 28,000 varieties in the registry of the Royal Horticulture Society of England.

There are triandrus, split collar, doubles, large cups, small cups, three inch tall perfect miniatures of the bell and stately ones.

Not all 28,000 turned up at the Friends' first meeting, held in Princeton late in April, but that initial meeting did at

"... A HOST OF GOLDEN DAFFODILS." Including a few that are pale apricot or white, as well. They were taken by station-wagon to the University Art Museum after their loving owner-planters had offered them as initiation tokens at Friends of Daffodils society. That's Mrs. John Shepard behind the wheel. She's president of the new organization.

about two dozen daffodil fanciers who brought with them over 100 different kinds of daffodils as their initiation fee, so to speak.

If you missed that meeting you can send your one dollar membership dues to Daniel McNamara, 18 Brook Tree Road, Hightstown, N.J. 08520 and then prepare to mark down a date this coming fall for the Friends' next meeting.

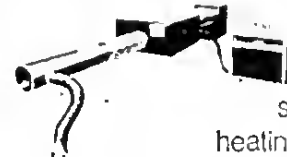
Instruction Offered. Mr.

McNamara and his wife Carol who is a judge and a regional director for the American Daffodil Society, along with other expert gardeners in the group, are eager to instruct eager newcomers. Through spring hours planned by the society, members can see the most beautiful daffodil gardens in the region and decide which cultivars to plant next.

Founders of the Friends hope they can work out arrangements with some of the

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HERE WE COME! Last year's Art People Party (see all that sunshine?) brought out the Rising Generation in all ages. This year, Witherspoon Street will again be closed off for balloons and strollers and for anybody who wants to declare, in costume, that "Streets are for People." The string band, shown here, was in front of One Palmer Square. There will be outdoor music this Saturday, too.

THE RISING GENERATION

Princeton's Art People Party this Saturday does more than get people outdoors and show them how exciting arts and crafts can be — the Art People Party draws kids together and, as one teen said, "makes me feel I'm more a part of the community."

Some young Princeton residents even make a point of coming back home from college this week-end, to re-live the days of their youth (way back last spring) when they, too, were part of Art People Party planning.

The Princeton Arts Council, sponsor and originator of the town's salute to the outdoors and to art, has junior members representing public and private schools. These young planners have been all over town in recent days — sitting in on planning sessions, signing up rock bands, blowing up balloons, lining up embroidery specialists,...

Young workers with the Council are Annie Whitall, Connie Wellnitz, Sarah Jane Lithgow, Lauren Sarno and Eric Laschever from Princeton High; Judy Miller, Jimmy Harford and Sarah Woodworth from Princeton Day School; Amy Dresner from Stuart; Lee Aldrich and Kevin Vernon, who are co-ordinating artists from the Princeton Youth Center.

Mike Novak, of Flight II, is organizing the kids who have signed on a pair of rock bands, some country-and-western and Barrie Peterson's Trinidad. Flight II will be selling those balloons you'll see everywhere.

Crafts. Of course! Connie Wellnitz will do quilting and bargello embroidery... Debbie Endersby, an "older youth" who teaches art at Stuart, will demonstrate harness weaving, and her brother Elbie, Princeton's young historiographer, will show how you make rubbings of old stone carvings.

Carey Light is going to make jewelry

and Jeff Field and Fran Treves will demonstrate soapstone sculpting.

Cooking and baking are crafts, too, and the Middle School members of Community House will have a bake sale of their wares.

Lauren Sarno, who goes to PHS, has arranged authentic Israeli dances which fourth and fifth graders from Johnson Park School will perform on the Green before Nassau Hall. (Lauren was a clown at the 1971 Are People Party, and it's just possible she may put on clown make-up again for this Saturday's Party.)

Street Theatre's young actors on their mobile trailer stage will repeat "Richard Harding Busb."

One of the happy surprises will be a parachute — a real, live one — on the Nassau Hall Green. Princeton High girls will show youngsters how to manipulate the chute and invent their own dance-like games with it.

Bikes and tricycles will be important again this year, and the Arts Council has obtained the valuable services of Sarah Woodworth to make sure no tricyclist is left out. Unicyclists from the Middle School are rumored to be ready to roll.

At the climax of the Art People Party, shortly before 4 p.m. this Saturday, Eric Laschever and his trumpet (probably heralded by other high school students with sandwich-board announcements) will walk through the Art People Party area, summoning everybody to Palmer Square where Borough Mayor Robert W. Cawley will, at the stroke of 4 p.m., solemnly tie off Palmer Square — the Square will remain closed to traffic for the next five months as a town-planning experiment.

So get outdoors this Saturday, be a kid again if you aren't one already, buy an ice-cream cone and a balloon and see how it feels to play!

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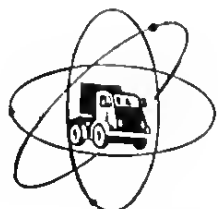
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—Continued From Page 10

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As an aid to teachers who may want to set up a garden project for their pupils, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture has made available a 44-page free publication, *A Child's Garden*, which contains a myriad of ideas for outdoor and classroom gardening activities. Supplies are limited and only one copy will be available for each classroom. Requests for the publication must come from a teacher.

Laterally illustrated, the publication shows the things plants need to grow—air, water, nutrient, and light—and also the things that can hurt plants. There are many parts of this new experiment which can be made with plants and several pages are devoted to instructions for the culture of specific vegetables.

To receive a copy of the

new booklet, teachers should write to Ivan Olinsky, Ornamental Horticulture Representative, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, P. O. Box 1838, Trenton, N.J. 08625.

Most plants suitable for rock garden planting require a well-drained soil but there are exceptions. Do not try to mix plants which require an acid soil with those requiring a more neutral soil. Use dwarf or low growing

Remember, the key to an attractive rock garden is to keep it as close to nature as possible and this includes holding maintenance to a bare minimum.

"Dumping off" disease is often brought on by overhead watering of seedlings in flats. Instead of overhead watering, try placing a two and one-half inch pot in the center of the flat. Add water to the pot, and this will keep the flat moist without overhead watering. Sink the flat well before sowing the seeds.

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* Please list up as of April 1, 1943. Adults need not list any.

Swimming instructions will be broken into two separate sessions this year. The 1st session will begin June 25th and conclude July 20th. The 2nd session will begin on July 30th and terminate on August 24th. Those wishing to participate in the 1st session are requested to be at the pool anytime between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday-Friday June 20th-22nd. The 2nd session evaluation will take place from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on July 25th-27th. Lessons will be offered to all individuals who are residents of Princeton or season permit holders. Positively no one under 6 years of age will be eligible to participate in the instructional program. Age will be calculated as of July 1, 1973.

1. Fill out application blank.
2. Mail completed application to: Princeton Recreation Department, Township Hall, Princeton, N. J. 08540.
3. A check or money order payable to the Princeton Recreation Department must accompany each application.
4. Pool permits will be available at the front of the pool complex when the pool opens.
5. Tennis permits will be available at courtside. Those individuals wishing to apply early are requested to wait two weeks after submitting their application before attempting to pick up their permits.

